Press Kit

CONCORDIA COMMUNIQUÉ

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONTREAL, November 16, 1981 -- It has been nine months since Concordia, along with Quebec's other universities, first learned that cuts could be expected in provincial funding for post-secondary education. This fall, universities were told that grants well below the rate of inflation would continue until at least 1985.

At first glance, all universities in the province find themselves in a similar situation. And although it is impossible to minimize the impact the government action will have on the entire university system, Concordia finds itself in an even more dangerous situation.

Years of underfunding have left the university ill-equipped to deal with the financial situation now before it.

Concordia has already gone through the painful exercise of cutting $3 milli from its operating budget, an exercise that can't be repeated without the most dire consequences for the quality of education offered by the university.

Although members of the Concordia administration have repeatedly pressed the university's case with officials from the Dept. of Education, and have presented a comprehensive brief concerning the university's unique position to Education Minister Camille Laurin (copy enclosed), Concordia is still expected to endure the same cuts as universities that, at least in the past, have been adequately funded.

It is at this point, after months of unsuccessful attempts to convince the Dept. of Education that it is not fair to expect Concordia to be subjected to the across-the-board budget-slashing now required, that we take our case to the public.

The enclosed charts and documents speak for themselves.

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